



NRCS Species for Plant Collections 2006

Helianthus maximiliani

Scientific Name: *Helianthus maximiliani* Schrad.

Common Name: Maximilian Sunflower

Morphological Characteristics

Habit- native perennial woody forb reaching 3-30 dm. tall from several mostly simple stems; flowers late summer and fall; reproduces by seed and rootstock

Leaves- alternate, simple, lanceolate, generally acuminate at both ends; mostly 14-30 cm. long and 20-55 mm. broad, margins entire to obscurely serrate, surficially with many short hairs imparting a grayish-green color, sessile

Flowers- heads in a simple terminal racemose arrangement; ray flowers 25-35 mm. long and bright yellow in color, disk flowers 10-12 mm. long

Fruit- achenes



Photo: ©James L. Reveal.
Courtesy of Smithsonian Institution



Photo: ©Larry Allain USGS NWRC

Other- stems scabrous or with abundant white hairs

Habitat and Range: frequent in seasonally moist ditches, depressions, or prairies, north central, south east Texas, and Edwards Plateau; infrequent in Plains Country and rare in the Trans-Pecos

Conservation Use

Why collect this plant? Texas Plant Materials Centers have identified this plant as having potential benefits to the following conservation practice standards: 645 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management and 550 Range Planting. Your assistance in collecting this plant helps support the NRCS conservation practice standards which are employed daily to conserve the natural resources of Texas!

Centers Requesting Seed

E. Kika de la Garza PMC

How to Collect Seed

1. Identify native plant stands in your area. You can go to the following websites for helpful photos <http://plants.usda.gov> or <http://www.noble.org/imagegallery/index.html> or www.wildflower.org
2. Determine if seed is mature. Mature seed is typically dry and will easily separate from the seed head.
3. Hand strip mature seed by grasping the bottom of the seed head then gently pulling away from the base of the plant. Deposit seed in a brown paper sack. Collect seed from a minimum of 30 to 50 plants.
4. Label each collection as it is made so collections do not get mixed up. Information required includes: Collector's name, number of plants collected, location (parish, city, highway, GPS coordinates), site description (soil type, slope, plants growing in association).
5. Complete NRCS-ECS-580; Plant Collection Information Form and mail with collected seeds to the NRCS Plant Materials Center requesting the species.

E. Kika de la Garza Plant Materials Center
3409 N FM 1355
Kingsville, TX 78363

Helpful Tips

Look for superior plants that display differences in color, height, or forage abundance and record observations. Differences in growing site or location should be made into separate collections if they are separated by more than 1 mile between sites.

Other Photos

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